



*J. P. K.*

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q77369

USUI, Minoru, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/662,397

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 1476

Examiner: Andre JACKSON

Filed: September 16, 2003

For: LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID CONTAINER,  
AND INK CARTRIDGE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**U.S. Appln. No.: 10/662,397**


**Atty Dkt No. Q77369**

Either complete English translations, or English translations of abstracts, of the foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and these comprise a concise explanation for such foreign language documents.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeffrey A. Schmidt  
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 23, 2005

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/662,397
				Confirmation Number	1476
				Filing Date	September 16, 2003
				First Named Inventor	USUI, Minoru
				Art Unit	2856
				Examiner Name	Andre JACKSON
				Attorney Docket Number	Q77369
Sheet	1	of	1		

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,524,486	A	6/11/1996	Hermann
		US 5,319,973	A	6/14/1994	Crayton et al.
		US 5,247,832	A	9/28/1993	Umezawa et al.
		US 5,264,831	A	11/23/1993	Pfeiffer
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	881 079	A2	12/2/1998		
		EP	1 055 520	A1	11/29/2000		
		JP	9-29989	A	4/2/1997		Yes
		JP	5-254142	A	10/5/1993		Yes
		JP	10-323993	A	12/8/1998		Abstract
		JP	10-175312	A	6/30/1998		Abstract
		JP	3-169642	A	7/23/1991		Abstract
		JP	3-067657	A	3/22/1991		Abstract
		JP	9-286121	A	11/4/1997		Abstract

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.